

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Eric Hyman on May 22, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. A system for identification of animals, the system including an animal identification device adapted for application to an animal and a device for secure storage of organic material taken from the animal to be identified by the identification device, the secure storage device removably secured to the identification device, the storage device and identification device each being marked with a common identifier, and a storage holder ~~adapted to~~ receives the identification device and the storage device prior to use in such a way that the organic material taken from the animal to be identified ~~can be~~ is stored in the storage device while mounted on the storage holder in which the identification device and the storage device are mounted prior to use.

20. A method of identification of an animal including providing a storage holder which has an animal identification device marked with an identifier marking and a secure storage device, the secure storage device removably secured to the identification device, the secure storage device also being marked with the same identifier marking, the method including the steps of taking a sample of organic material

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from the animal and placing the sample in the secure storage device, removing the identification device and storage device from the storage holder, applying the identification device to the animal and placing the storage device in a secure storage facility, wherein the storage holder ~~is adapted to~~ receives the identification device and the storage device prior to use in such a way that the organic material taken from the animal to be identified ~~can be~~ is stored in the storage device while mounted on the storage holder.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cassandra Davis whose telephone number is 571-272-6642. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lesley Morris can be reached on 571-272-6651. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Cassandra Davis/
Primary Examiner
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CD